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## ASSEMBLY SUBSTITUTE AMENDMENT 1, TO 2009 ASSEMBLY BILL 546

February 10, 2010 - Offered by Representative Roys.

- AN ACT *to create* 66.0145 of the statutes; **relating to:** requiring governmental
- bodies of certain political subdivisions to post meeting notices on their Web
  sites.

### Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

Currently, under the open meetings law, with certain exceptions, meetings of state and local governmental bodies must be preceded by public notice, must be held in places that are reasonably accessible to the public, and must be open to the public at all times, although such meetings may convene in closed session for the purpose of considering certain matters specified by law.

A public notice of a meeting of a governmental body must contain the time, date, place, and subject matter of the meeting and must be given at least 24 hours before the start of the meeting, although shorter notice, but never less than two hours, may be given under limited circumstances. The notice must be given to news media that have filed a request to receive such a notice and the notice must appear in the governmental body's official newspaper or, if none exists, in a news medium likely to give notice in the area.

Under this substitute amendment, a governmental body of a city, village, town, or county (political subdivision) that has a Web site is required to post a public notice of a meeting that is subject to the open meetings law on that political subdivision's Web site. The substitute amendment also allows a town that could otherwise comply

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with current law notice requirements by posting the notice in at least three places to meet the requirements by posting at the town hall and one other public place if the notice is also posted on the town's Web site. Current law defines "governmental body" to include any agency, board, commission, committee, council, or department of a political subdivision.

# The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:

**SECTION 1.** 66.0145 of the statutes is created to read:

### **66.0145 Posting of public meeting notice, minutes.** (1) In this section:

- (a) "Political subdivision" means a city, village, town, or county.
- (b) "Public notice" means a public notice, as that term is used in s. 19.84, that sets forth the time, date, place, and subject matter of a meeting of a governmental body of the political subdivision.
- (2) If a political subdivision has a Web site, it shall post on its Web site the public notice for every meeting of a governmental body of the political subdivision, consistent with the notice requirements in s. 19.84 (3).
- (3) With regard to a town, if the public notice requirements in s. 19.84 (3) may be met by posting the notice in at least 3 public places, the town may comply with such a posting requirement by posting the public notice in 2 places, one of which shall be the town hall, if the town also posts the public notice on its Web site.

#### Section 2. Initial applicability.

(1) This act first applies to a meeting that is held on the day after the date on which this subsection takes effect.

17 (END)